

Club Calendar

Tues., July 23 — Open House — Eger V. Murphree, guided missiles' "czar." Cocktails, 6:00 p.m., buffet supper. (See story, p. 3.)

Tues., July 30 — Open House — Details to be announced.

IRVING LEVINE MARRIES

Irving R. Levine, NBC's Moscow correspondent, met Nancy Jones three years ago when he went to Dave Garrow's office to go over a script for his appearance on the "Today" show. Nancy was Dave's secretary.

When Levine went to Moscow, they wrote to each other. During Levine's brief visits to the U.S. they dated.

Last week (July 12) they were married in Nancy's Manhattan home. The next day they flew to Sweden for a five-day honeymoon. From there they went back to Moscow and Levine's assignment.

OPC TO INCREASE TIES WITH FOREIGN PRESS CLUBS

The Foreign Journalists Liaison Committee has been empowered by the OPC Board of Governors to investigate the situation of foreign press clubs throughout the world to establish broader reciprocal arrangements between them and OPC, according to Gertrude Samuels, chairman.

"Correspondents on permanent assignment abroad are probably in the strongest position to judge the world of the press clubs and journalists' organizations in their countries," Miss Samuels says.

The function of the Foreign Journalists Liaison Committee is "to advance professional, cultural and social relationships between correspondents of foreign countries and American correspondents. At present, the OPC has reciprocal arrangements in London, Rome, Ottawa, Frankfurt, Germany and Santiago.

The Committee is interested in the following information concerning the

(Continued on page 7)



WHITMAN BASSOW

Moscow Newsmen Tell Only Part of Russian Story

Whitman Bassow, UP Moscow correspondent, told OPCers that Kremlin censorship of outgoing news has eased considerably since Stalin's death, but Western reporters can still tell only part of the Russian story.

Speaking at a Club Open House program, *The Overseas Press Bulletin* correspondent described some of the problems in covering one of the world's hottest news spots.

"The big problem is obtaining reliable information and then getting it through the censorship," he said.

The principle news sources, according to Bassow are: (1). the Soviet press; (2). Tass - the official news agency; (3). Soviet and diplomatic receptions; (4). Foreign ministry announcements and press conferences; and (5) Western diplomatic sources.

Once a story has been obtained, it must be filed from the Central Telegraph, in downtown Moscow. Here it is handed to a girl sitting behind a little window who takes it to the unseen censor. It comes back untouched or with banned phrases covered with thick black pencil strokes. Or sometimes, it does not come back at all. Bassow said.

Once passed, the copy can be cabled or 'phoned directly to London, Paris or some other West European point with the censor listening in to make sure only

(Continued on page 6)

BARRETT MCGURN TELLS OPCers ABOUT CAIRO EXPULSION



Photo: Ann Meuer

Barrett McGurn, the N.Y. *Herald Tribune's* ace foreign correspondent who received the OPC's 1957 Award for Best Press Reporting from Abroad, told members at a special OPC Open House July 11 how he was ordered out of Cairo in April. McGurn (left), shown with OPCer James A. Farley, former U.S. Postmaster General, said he got a call about 11:00 p.m. telling him that he must be out of Egypt the next morning. He asked, "I don't suppose you'll give me any reason?" "You're right" was the only answer he ever received. His reports during the Suez crisis helped win for him his OPC Award. McGurn spoke on Poland, Yugoslavia, North Africa and Hungary. He described the helpless feeling of American correspondents who, when they arrived in Hungary during the revolt, were mistaken for forerunners of a United Nations column coming to the rescue of the Hungarians and were cheered accordingly. Larry Newman, chairman of the OPC's 1956-7 Awards Committee, presented McGurn with the gift typewriter which had been kept for him when he was not able to attend the Annual Awards Dinner in May.

SEDAM DEAD

Robert W. Sedam, assistant vice president, public relations, of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., died July 9 of leukemia. He was fifty-two.

Sedam went to work for the New York Telephone Co. as a commercial representative when he graduated from Swarthmore College in 1927. He was made assistant vice president in charge of personnel in 1946. In 1950 he joined A.T.&T. as assistant vice president, public relations. He headed the company's press information and customer relations division.

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BARKHAM REPORTS FROM TOKYO

The Saturday Review's John Barkham, touring Japan before making a visit to Hong Kong, writes to *The Overseas Press Bulletin*: "Flew into Tokyo at the end of the rainy season after five delectable days at Waikiki. I found the Imperial Hotel lobby crowded with correspondents and local newsmen interviewing newly-arrived Statesiders on the Girard case. The case is hogging the news in this country.

"It is the main topic at the Tokyo Foreign Correspondents Club which is a flourishing organization with 110 active members (all bona fide full-time correspondents) and some 300 associate members.

"The Club gave me guest membership and its OPCers made me feel warmly welcome. OPCers had no complaints; they all hope to call at 35 East 39th Street one of these days. Robert Pierpoint, CBS, sends special greetings.

"I had lunch with Earnie Hoberecht, UP general manager for Asia, and Bob Sherrod, old-time *Time* colleague of mine

and now managing editor of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Sherrod is ducking everyone in sight since a local newspaper printed a story that he had come to Tokyo to hire a new man for *The Post*. Actually he came out to see his house.

"Hoberecht tells me the Tokyo Foreign Correspondents Club is prosperously paying its way and plans to move into larger premises in the Fall. Its bar is as well stocked as our own, and its cuisine struck me as superior."

Los Angeles Mirror-News Aviation Editor Lee Pitt has returned from a three-week Europe and Middle East tour of Army, Navy, Air Force and NATO installations. He was on the U.S. Air Force-sponsored tour with Jim Lucas and twelve other newsmen.

The Club's Placement Committee Executive Secretary Janice Robbins, arrived in San Francisco last week on vacation.

N.Y. Herald Tribune's Ansel Talbert and Mrs. Talbert are in Europe on vacation.

HUNGARIAN NEWSMEN HONORED; UN REPORT ON REVOLT DISCUSSED



Photo: Ann Meuer

Twenty-nine Hungarian journalists who were killed or imprisoned while reporting the revolt in that country last year were memorialized at an OPC Open House held in conjunction with the International Federation of Free Journalists on July 9. A panel discussed the United Nations report on the revolt -- and agreed that it provides a first-rate basis for action, and should be publicized as fully as possible behind the Iron Curtain. Photo shows participants, l. to r.: Bela Fabian, former Chairman of the Hungarian National Democratic Party; C.D. Jackson *Time-Life*, Inc., former chairman of the Psychological Warfare Board; Diana Trilling, Congress for Cultural Freedom; James Sheldon, chairman of the OPC Open House Committee; George Ionescu, Romanian journalist and vice-president of IFFJ; and Thomas P. Whitney, AP expert on Russia and OPC vice president. OPC Past President Louis Lochner made a statement for the Club, praising the heroism of the journalists. Four members of the Board of Governors present at the occasion are jointly introducing a resolution to place in the OPC Memorial Library a plaque honoring the journalists for their sacrifices in getting out the news.

The Overseas Press Bulletin is published weekly by The Overseas Press Club of America, Inc., 35 E. 39 St., New York 16, N. Y. Tel.: MU 6-1630.

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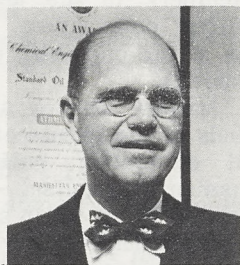
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MISSILE "CZAR" TO BE OPC GUEST

Eger V. Murphree, president of Esso Research and Engineering Co., will be guest of honor at an OPC Open House Tuesday, July 23.

Murphree, who served as the nation's first guided missiles' "czar," presided at a meeting of the Permanent Council of the World Petroleum Congress in Frankfurt, Germany where initial plans were made for the Fifth Congress in New York City in 1959.



E.V. MURPHREE

The petroleum scientist was on the government committee which set up the World War II "Manhattan" atom bomb project and is on the Atomic Energy Commission's advisory committee.

Henry R. Luce is back from swing of Europe; was principal speaker at final session of the Int'l Management Congress...Robert E. Kinther and Emanuel Sacks were elected to NBC board of directors; William E. Robinson has resigned from the board - he had served four years.

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THE RED CHINA PASSPORT ISSUE

by Bruno Shaw

Geraldine Fitch's letter in the July 13 issue of *The Overseas Press Bulletin* on Red China prompted Bruno Shaw, a prominent member of the OPC, to make the following reply. Shaw served for many years in the Far East as AP correspondent and with the *Hankow Herald* and *China Weekly Review*.

I don't know of anything more important to a foreign news reporter than the preservation of his right, at his own risk, to try to get the news. As one who has worked in the field for many years, and as the founder and oft-time chairman of our Freedom of the Press Committee, I should like to say something about it.

In the July 13 issue of *The Overseas Press Bulletin*, my good friend, Geraldine Fitch, intimated that, if newsmen go to Red China, they would "give aid and comfort to an enemy." She also said that "if they are patriots as well as people, and see that it will hurt our country, or make defeat more likely in the 'cold war,' they will abide by present restrictions."

This is an inferential exercise in ambiguity. What does Mrs. Fitch mean by: "if we see that it will hurt our country." Suppose we do not see it that way at all. Suppose there are many who believe, as I do, that it will not only not hurt our position in the "cold war," but improve it, if qualified American reporters with stamina and courage go to Red China at their own risk to report the news. What then?

Many years ago, on the plea of the then American Minister to China, John Van A. MacMurray, I killed a story I was about to wire home to AP. He argued that, because it was an eyewitness report of his being shot at by Communist forces at Hankow, it would interfere with and possibly wreck his hopes of negotiating a settlement of the "Nanking Incident" in which American civilians were murdered by Chinese Communist troops. I would be "unpatriotic," he charged, if I filed that story. I succumbed to his blandishments and was sorry ever afterward. The only good that came of it was a lesson that taught me to avoid being hoodwinked by officialdom with an axe to grind.

In her letter to Mrs. Roosevelt which was published in *The Overseas Press Bulletin*, Mrs. Fitch warned that "if a newsman were too zealous in getting at the truth he might be detained, as was Don Dixon for two years. And with no explanation, as in his case."

Come, come, Gerry Fitch. Far from being "too zealous" at the moment he was taken into tow by a Red Chinese naval vessel, Don was taking a vacation sail in a small pleasure sloop, from Hong

Kong to Macao, in a pirate-infested lane in which foreign ships travel under armed guard, and in waters in which Communist gunboats run in and out of the Pearl River estuary.

This did not make legitimate, of course, the Chinese Communist kidnaping and piracy of Don Dixon, his companions, and their sloop. And I am sure, from my experience in conflict with Chinese Reds, that even if Don had been in Red China with Chou En-lai's permission, he might well have undergone the same two years in prison on the same trumped-up charges, or on no charges at all.

That is why I believe that American reporters should go into Red China at their own risk, if they wish to go there, and why I am opposed to any form of official United States Government permission, with or without any implied promise of protection. A year or two ago during a critical time for "our side" in Vietnam, Joseph Alsop took his life in his hands on a trip into Communist Vietminh territory, which he duly reported in the *New Yorker*. One of our Club's highest honors, the George Polk Award, is given in the name of a reporter who was murdered on the eve of a planned visit to the camp of the Communist General Markos with whom the Greek Government, with American military aid, was at war. I myself have made similar trips into enemy territory in the Far East. Countless others have taken equal risks to get the news. But not until now has our government threatened us with reprisals if, in the interest of reporting to the American people, we try to maintain this great tradition.

The point that needs to be made clear, it seems to me, is that American reporters intending to go to Red China should not ask permission or passport accreditation from our own government. That if they do, it should be denied. That if they go, they must do so entirely at their own risk. But that they should not be subject to punishment or reprisal from our own Government for their gamble.

The great danger at the moment comes from the owners of large newspapers and radio and TV networks which employ their own foreign news staffs, and from the wire services. They are putting enormous pressures upon the State Department for official United States approval for the stationing of their staff members in Peiping. If they succeed in squeezing this concession out of the Administration, then, indeed, we will be in the precise spot into which world Communism has been trying to maneuver us in the Far East since 1949.

How to Make Money Make Money by Bache & Co.'s Henry Gellermann will be published Oct. 14 by Thomas Y. Crowell Co.

purge reviewed

U.S.S.R. EXPERT SEES RED ARMY LEADERS IN NEW POLITICAL ROLE

by Thomas P. Whitney

New York

Charles Beard, the famous American historian, once claimed in his later years that all of human history could be summed up in three sayings. The first of these I have forgotten, but the other two I remember -- and never were they any more applicable than they are at this moment in the Soviet Union.

One of them is: "Whom the Gods would destroy they first make mad."

The other: "The mills of the Gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small."

Certainly one of the most fascinating aspects of the purge in Moscow is that it represents a further stage in the progressive suicide of Stalin's old Kremlin clique which inherited much of his vast power. One might have thought that the instinct for self-preservation would have led them to hang together lest they hang separately. And yet how few of them are left!

There are at this moment Khrushchev, Mikoyan, Bulganin, Voroshilov. And if one wishes to be generous one can include as well perhaps Nikolai Shvernik even though he has had his ups and downs and never been in the inner circle of power. And of them Voroshilov and Shvernik are nonentities and Bulganin habitually a front man. This leaves Khrushchev and Mikoyan as the only men who remain.

One certainly cannot help but wonder whether Khrushchev has not, in ridding himself of the opposition of Malenkov, Molotov and Kaganovich, actually set the scene for his own eventual removal. Surely the positions of Bulganin, Voroshilov and that lanky Ichabod Crane type of an ideologist-propagandist, Mikhail Suslov are, in the light of positions they may have taken in the recent crisis and the recent past, shaky already. The lieutenants of Stalin already are a decided minority even in the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Party. One of Khrushchev's greatest assets, of course, is the fact his opponents and nearly everyone else for that matter has tended to underestimate his great ability and skill in political maneuvering. But the possibility exists that the situation may get too thick for him also and that he may sometime be forced to depart himself.

Should Khrushchev leave the scene this would complete the process of self-destruction of the hardy band of Stalin's closest lieutenants.

"Ten little, nine little, eight little Indians..."

Khrushchev in Saddle

There are a good many parallels in

the power struggle which has been taking place in the Kremlin since Stalin's death to that which occurred after Lenin died in 1924. But fascination with these parallels can easily obscure the fact that there are a great many differences.

It is true that we may have Nikita with us for a long time in the future. But it seems fair to say that his position now, four years after Stalin's death, is very distinct from that of Stalin in 1928 or 1929.

Khrushchev derives his authority at the present time from the support of two separate organs of power -- the Communist Party and the Soviet Army.

The Communist Party, of course, continues to be the real apparatus of government of the nation and the nominal government apparatus to be merely a subordinate and auxiliary arm of the Party.

Khrushchev now dominates the Party as never before. He is its Chief Executive as First Secretary of the Central Committee and controls, as he did before, its executive arm -- the Central Committee Secretariat and the Central Committee Apparatus subordinate to the Secretariat. He has a very strong following in the Central Committee itself which is the Party's legislature, so to speak, and which in the last year and more has been playing a very important partially independent role in Soviet politics. He can be expected now to pack this body further with his own personal adherents. As a result of his purge of his opponents he now has control at last of that powerful Party organ where his dominance in recent times was not only insecure but on occasion entirely rejected -- the Party's policy formation body, the Central Committee Presidium, once known as the Politburo.

But this is a position which Khrushchev has secured not by his own unaided efforts -- but with the assistance of the Soviet Army as personified by Marshal Zhukov.

Army Reaching For Power

The Soviet Army in general has not sought political power in the past. Under Stalin it was kept in a state of political inertness by means of penetration by the apparatus of the Party on the one hand and the Police on the other. It could not under these circumstances coherently express its political interests.

This is no longer true, however. Four times in the last four years -- at the time of Stalin's death in March 1953, in the crisis of the Beria purge of June 1953, at the time of the removal of Malenkov as Premier in February 1955, and during the recent Kremlin showdown -- the Party leadership has had to seek the support of

the Army. Each time it has been given -- but a price has been exacted by the Army High Command on one hand in the form of abolition of Police terror in its ranks and on the other in subordination of the Party machinery in the armed forces to the military commanders. Each time Zhukov has moved one notch closer to the center of power.

Marshal Zhukov stands today in the minds of the people of Russia as a symbol of probity, military heroism, and Russian nationalism -- and his hands are clean of all of Stalin's political intrigues. The Communist Party leaders who have been washing their dirty linen in public for the last four years can hardly claim the same public stature.

New Partnership

Khrushchev's relationship with Zhukov and the other Army marshals is an interesting one. One would like to know how it originated and how deep it goes. Evidently the fact of the matter is that the Army leaders trust Khrushchev more than they trust any other of the top Party leaders. At any rate it is obvious that the future of both Khrushchev and Zhukov depends on whether this relationship can be an enduring one. At the present time there is no reason to think that there are necessarily any unbridgeable gaps between them.

But the Soviet Army has made its weight felt in Soviet political affairs. And the recent crisis definitely demonstrated that there are limits to the Army's willingness to tolerate situations in which bickering among factions inside the Party undermines the security and stability of the State. There are other criteria as well which Marshal Zhukov and his fellow Army marshals are going to apply in judging Party rule in the coming era. In some measure the leadership of the Soviet Communist Party is in a probationary status.

Now this kind of a relationship between the Party leadership, which has never ever been willing to share its power, and the Army, which has never possessed before any political weight, is a



THOMAS P. WHITNEY

Thomas P. Whitney, formerly staff correspondent for AP in Moscow from 1947 to 1953, is a close observer of Russian politics. He is foreign affairs analyst on the foreign desk of AP in New York.

new one. There are no precedents for it in Soviet history.

It is an interesting situation, only one phase of a larger and most fascinating overall position. It is one which promises newsmen who cover Russian and Communist affairs from inside or on the outside of the Soviet Union many opportunities for fruitful work in the future. One can say with some assurance that the Soviet Union is likely to remain one of the most vital and fascinating centers of emanation of world news for a long time to come.

EUROPEAN MAG VENTURE STARTS SEPTEMBER 25

The American Abroad, a new monthly magazine with editorial offices in Paris and London, will publish its first edition on September 25 with a 30,000 press run. Walter Kerr, former European editor of the *N.Y. Herald Tribune*, will be co-editor with his wife Vivianne Lovell Kerr.

OPC Past President *Bob Considine*, INS, and *N.Y. Times'* *Milton Bracker* met while covering the flood catastrophe in Cameron, La....*Joseph S. Rosapepe* joined *Burson-Marsteller Associates'* public relations staff; he was director of public relations at *Cleveland's Case Institute of Technology*...*Jack Frummer* visiting in California.

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COMMITTEES



The Foreign Journalists Liaison Committee asked the Board to approve guest-membership status for visiting journalists for a period of six months, to bring more foreign journalists into contact with American correspondents and the Club's facilities. Such guest-membership cards would be signed by the Committee chairman and counter-signed by either OPC President *Cecil Brown* or Vice President *Thomas P. Whitney*. The motion was approved by the Board.

Two sub-committees have been established: one to explore the possibilities of bringing more United Nations correspondents into the Club; the second to consider the mechanics and financing of specific seminars between visiting journalists and American newspapermen.

Gertrude Samuels, chairman

OPC Secretary *Will Yolen* reported a tentative surplus of \$870 from the Club's "Show Boat" project.

In his report to the Board of Governors, *Yolen*, chairman of the Special Events sub-committee in charge of the OPC opening night sponsorship, thanked the following Club members who served on the committee: *Will Oursler, Bill Berns, Dorothy Omansky, Kathryn Cravens, Dick Marshall, Charles Lanis, Kurt Lassen, Inez Robb, Larry Newman, Bill Hearst, Dave Shefrin, Bill Safire, Spencer Valmy, Bill Glover, Barry Holloway, Lou Weintraub, Wilfred May, Tom Whitney* and *Wayne Richardson*.

The Budget Committee reported to the Board of Governors that it tentatively approved the budgets of eleven committees, is calling for reductions in the requests of eight committees and has referred five budget requests to the Executive Committee, according to *A. Wilfred May*, acting chairman.

The Committee has submitted for the Board's approval a proposal that outlays for capital projects reducing the Club's working capital below \$100,000 be prohibited, he said.

Bob LaBlonde, PR for *Caltex Oil*, back from England where he says the press has been hard hit by TV...*Life's Roberto Esquenazi-Mayo* is a visiting professor of Modern Spanish American Literature at *Columbia University* this summer.

Lowell Thomas and *Richard W. Darrow* were named trustees of *Ohio Wesleyan University*...*Ann R. Silver* leaving for Paris to cover French couture openings for *Newhouse newspapers*; she'll continue on swing of Europe...*John A. Creedy* has resigned as PR director of *Pan Am Airways* to join *Anna M. Rosenberg Assoc.*...*Peter F. Greene, Exporter's Digest* now VP *World Trade Writers Ass'n*.

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MOSCOW NEWSMEN (Cont'd from p. 1)

approved copy is transmitted. Any deviation results in a cut line.

Strangely enough, there is no censorship of outgoing undeveloped movie film, Bassow pointed out. "Unlike undeveloped still film, movie film intended for TV newsreel use may be exported."

One of the great improvements for newsmen since Stalin's death, the correspondent said, is the frequent attendance of top Soviet leaders at diplomatic receptions.

"All of the sixty-odd diplomatic missions in Moscow hold receptions on their national holidays -- and we're invited to most of them. Khrushchev and Bulganin attend many of them and so do other government leaders," Bassow said.

"This gives us a chance to talk directly with the top sources of power in the country -- and very often, we can get a front page story out of them."

"The diplomatic reception is the equivalent of an Eisenhower-Dulles press conference," Bassow said, "but with caviar and vodka as added attractions."

"But unfortunately, most correspondents are too busy to eat or drink anything at these parties."

Bassow said he thought the thirteen permanently accredited American correspondents in Moscow were doing a fine job despite all the difficulties.



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to Oct. '46. Proposed by *David Shefrin*;
seconded by *John Luter*.

MISSING MEMBERS

Anyone having information concerning
the following members is asked to notify
the OPC office:

Paul C. Belknap
Harold L. Block
Henry R. Lieberman
Ramelle Macoy
Debs Myers

CANADA UP IN NEW SHOP

The British United Press, Ltd.,
affiliate in Canada of UP, has moved
into a new four-story air-conditioned
United Press building at 585 University
Street, Montreal.

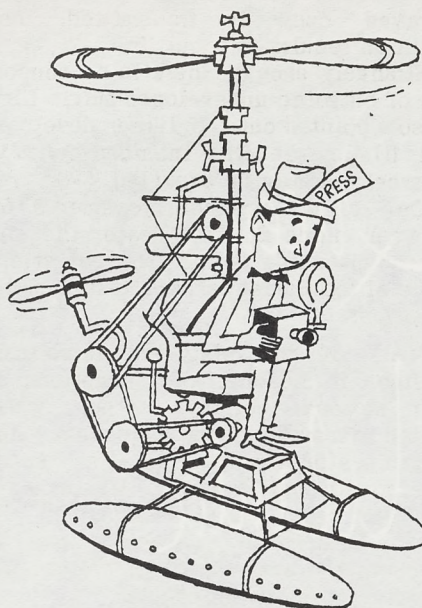
OPC TO INCREASE TIES

(Continued from page 1)

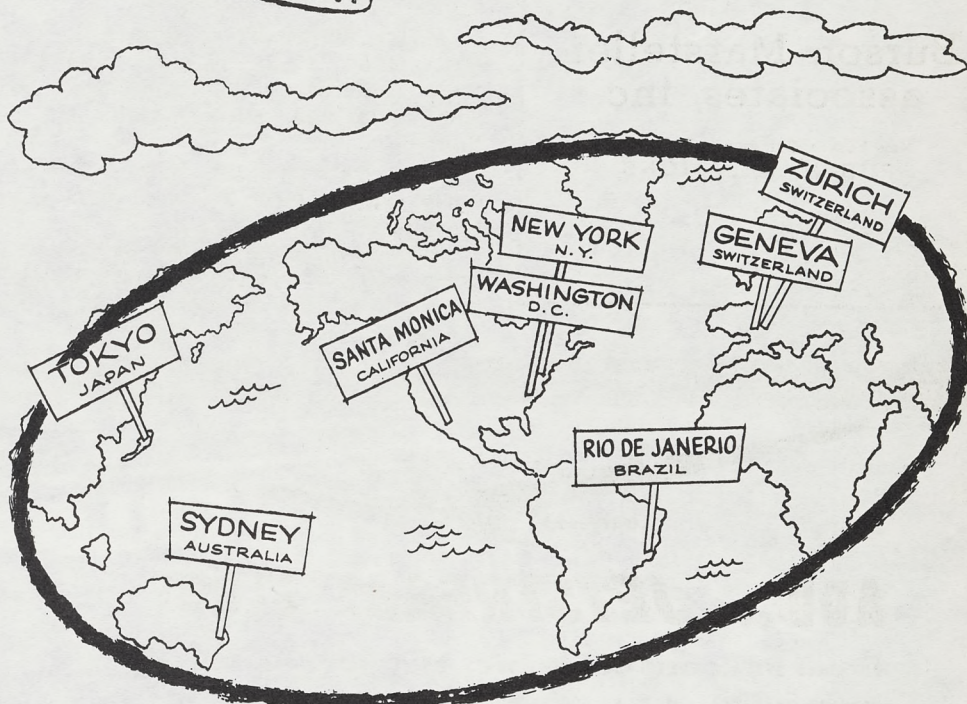
leading press clubs and journalists'
groups throughout the world:

1. Who and where they are. (Those
in capitals would be of prime importance.)
2. What facilities they offer. 3. Whether
the membership is representative of the
more responsible elements of the press
in that country.

The Committee wishes to learn how
the OPC will benefit from reciprocal
arrangements with press clubs before
giving clearance.



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